

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) An ~~[[I]]~~information system for a
2 vehicle, comprising:
3 a plurality of contactless transceivers that allow a data
4 transfer at close range with private portable
5 terminals within the vehicle,
6 central data processing means including means for
7 checking the passengers travel authorizations,
8 a data bus that is connected with said transceivers and
9 with said data processing means, so that data can be
10 transmitted between said private portable terminals
11 and said central data processing means in both
12 directions over said transceivers and said data bus,
13 wherein said private portable terminals are adapted
14 for being carried by passengers,
15 ~~said system being usable~~ means for distributing
16 information and entertainment programs to said
17 portable terminals for use by the passengers, and
18 means for storing passengers' identification data ~~being~~
19 ~~stored~~ in said portable terminals in such a manner
20 that these identification data are transmitted to
21 said central data processing means, so that said
22 system can ~~also be used for~~ checking the passengers'
23 travel authorizations.

1 2. (original) The information system of claim 1, wherein
2 at least one radio receiver is connected with said central
3 data processing means that can receive data from a sender
4 outside the vehicle.

1 3. (original) The information system of claim 2, wherein
2 a bi-directional data transfer is possible between said radio
3 receiver and said sender.

1 4. (original) The information system of claim 3, wherein
2 the data received with said radio receiver are converted into
3 a format compatible with said data bus.

1 5. (original) The information system of claim 3, wherein
2 said transceivers are suitable for a communication with RFID
3 elements.

1 6. (original) The information system of claim 3, wherein
2 said transceivers are suitable for a communication according
3 to the Bluetooth standard.

1 7. (original) The information system of claim 3, wherein
2 said transceivers are suitable for a communication according
3 to the HomeRF standard.

1 8. (original) The information system of claim 2, wherein
2 said radio receiver can receive DAB program-accompanying data.

1 9. (original) The information system of claim 2, wherein
2 said radio receiver can receive DVB program-accompanying data.

1 10. (original) The information system of claim 3, wherein
2 said radio receiver can receive and send GSM data.

1 11. (original) The information system of claim 3, wherein
2 said radio receiver can receive and send UMTS data.

1 12. (original) The information system of claim 10,
2 wherein a voice and/or data communication between the

3 passengers in the vehicle and subscribers of an external
4 mobile radio network can take place over said data bus and
5 said radio receiver.

1 13. (original) The information system of claim 12,
2 wherein temporary mobile network identifications are provided
3 by the operator of the vehicle.

1 14. (original) The information system of claim 12,
2 wherein said data processing means comprise a visitor register
3 in which the passengers' personal identifications in said
4 mobile radio network are stored.

1 15. (original) The information system claim 1, wherein a
2 voice and/or data communication between the passengers in the
3 vehicle can take place over said data bus.

1 16. (original) The information system of claim 1, wherein
2 at least one said transceiver is intended for checking the
3 entering and leaving passengers at the doors of the vehicle.

1 17. (original) The information system of claim 16,
2 wherein the position of the identified passengers in the
3 vehicle is stored in said data processing means.

1 18. (original) The information system of claim 17,
2 wherein at least certain data transmitted over said data bus
3 are addressed depending on said stored position.

1 19. (original) The information system of claim 1, wherein
2 a software module for computing the traveled distance is
3 executed in said central data processing means.

1 20. (original) The information system of claim 19,

2 wherein said software - module uses the passengers'
3 identification stored in said private terminals of these
4 passengers.

1 21. (original) The information system of claim 1, wherein
2 a location determining module is connected with said central
3 data processing means.

1 22. (original) The information system of claim 21,
2 wherein location-dependent information is selected depending
3 on said location-determining module and distributed to
4 passengers.

1 23. (currently amended) A ~~[[M]]~~method for checking the
2 travel authorizations of passengers in a vehicle, comprising
3 the steps of:
4 checking the passengers' travel authorizations being
5 stored in portable personal terminals adapted for
6 being carried by the passengers, wherein
7 transmitting said travel authorizations ~~are transmitted~~
8 to central data processing means over a data bus,
9 and
10 ~~that is also used for~~ distributing information and
11 entertainment programs over the data bus to the
12 passengers.

1 24. (original) The method of claim 23, wherein said
2 information and entertainment programs are reproduced with
3 said personal terminals.

1 25. (original) The communication method of claim 23,
2 wherein the passengers log into an external mobile radio
3 network over said data bus.

1 26. (original) The communication method of claim 25,
2 wherein a temporary user identification is provided by the
3 operator of the vehicle.

1 27. (original) The communication method of claim 26,
2 wherein the passengers' personal user identification in the
3 external mobile radio network is stored in a visitor register
4 in the vehicle.

1 28. (currently amended) Information system for vehicles,
2 comprising:

3 a plurality of short range radio transceivers that allow
4 a bidirectional data transfer at close range with a
5 plurality of portable personal terminals within the
6 vehicle, wherein each of said portable personal
7 terminals is adapted for being carried by a
8 passenger;

9 central data processing means including means for
10 checking the passengers' travel authorization,

11 a data bus that is connected with said transceivers and
12 with said data processing means, so that data can be
13 transmitted between the private portable terminals
14 ~~of the passengers~~ and said central data processing
15 means in both directions over said transceivers and
16 said data bus,

17 ~~said system being usable~~ means for distributing
18 information and entertainment programs to the
19 portable terminals~~passengers~~

20 and

21 means for storing passengers' identification data ~~being~~
22 ~~stored in their personal~~ portable terminals in such
23 a manner that these identification data are
24 transmitted to said central data processing means,

25 ~~so that said system can also be used~~ for checking
26 the passengers' travel authorizations.

1 29. (original) The information system of claim 28,
2 wherein said transceivers and said terminals are suitable for
3 a communication according to the Bluetooth standard.

30. (canceled).

1 31. (new) An information system for a vehicle,
2 comprising:
3 a portable private terminal adapted for being carried by
4 a passenger and including:
5 a memory for storing passenger identification data,
6 and
7 an output for providing entertainment and/or
8 informational content to the passenger;
9 a wireless transceiver that allows a data transfer at
10 close range with said portable terminals within or
11 near the vehicle;
12 a central processor for checking a travel authorization
13 of the passenger;
14 a data bus connected with said central processor and
15 wirelessly connected with said private portable
16 terminals in both directions over said transceivers;
17 wherein
18 said identification data is transmitted to said central
19 data processing means from said private terminals
20 over said data bus for checking said travel
21 authorization of the passenger, and further wherein
22 information and/or entertainment programs are transmitted
23 to said portable terminal over the data bus for use
24 by the passenger.